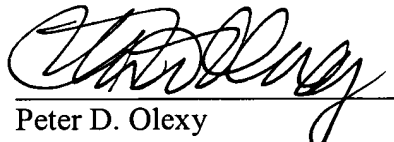


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 10/759,138

REMARKS

The claims are amended to remove the "preventing" language. The Examiner telephoned the undersigned and indicated that a sequence listing would be needed in this application. A sequence listing will shortly be filed.

Respectfully submitted,


Peter D. Olexy
Registration No. 24,513

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 7, 2004